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Warren Report Defended

Washington

President Johnson yesterday defended the Warren Commission, declaring that the evidence supports its conclusions about the assassination of President Kennedy.

In his first statement on the subject since the Commission became the target of a series of critical books and articles, the President gave the panel high marks for its "thorough study."

In answer to a question at his news conference Mr. Johnson said, "I know of no evidence that would in any way cause any reasonable person to have a doubt" about the Commission's findings.

The Commission concluded that Lee Harvey Oswald acted alone in the slaying of President Kennedy.

Mr. Johnson's statements came in response to a question about the 65 X-rays and photographs turned over to the National Archives this week by the Kennedy family.

He was asked why the material had not been turned over before, and why it will not be avalable to non-government investigators for at least five years.

Mr. Johnson replied that the material "has been available to the Warren Commission anytime it wanted to see it." And that government agencies have access to it now.

"I think every American can understand," he said, "the reasons why we wouldn't want to have the garments, the records and everything paraded out in every sewing circle in the country to be exploited and used without serving any good or official purpose."

Mr. Johnson concluded that if anybody turns up evidence to cast doubt on the Warren report, it will be considered by the proper authorities.

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